



9110-04-P

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY

Coast Guard

33 CFR Part 100

[Docket No. USCG-2012-0046]

RIN 1625-AA08

Special Local Regulation for Marine Events; Temporary
Change of Dates for Recurring Marine Events in the Fifth
Coast Guard District, Ocean City Maryland Offshore Grand
Prix, Ocean City, MD

AGENCY: Coast Guard, DHS.

ACTION: Temporary Final rule.

SUMMARY: The Coast Guard is temporarily changing the enforcement period for a special local regulation for one recurring marine event in the Fifth Coast Guard District, specifically, the "Ocean City Maryland Offshore Grand Prix," hydroplane races on the North Atlantic Ocean near Ocean City, Maryland. The event consists of approximately 50 V-hull and twin-hull inboard hydroplanes racing in heats counter-clockwise around an oval race course, this regulation is necessary to provide for the safety of life on navigable waters during the event. This action is intended to restrict vessel traffic in portions of the

North Atlantic Ocean near Ocean City, Maryland during the event.

DATES: This rule is effective from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on May 13, 2012.

ADDRESSES: Comments and material received from the public, as well as documents mentioned in this preamble as being available in the docket are part of docket USCG-2012-0046 and are available online by going to <http://www.regulations.gov>, inserting USCG-2012-0046 in the "Search" box, and then clicking "Search." They are also available for inspection or copying at the Docket Management Facility (M-30), U.S. Department of Transportation, West Building Ground Floor, Room W12-140, 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: If you have questions on this temporary rule, call or e-mail LCDR Hector Cintron, Waterways Management Division Chief, Sector Hampton Roads, Coast Guard; telephone 757-668-5581, e-mail Hector.L.Cintron@uscg.mil. If you have questions on viewing the docket, call Renee V. Wright, Program Manager, Docket Operations, telephone 202-366-9826.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Regulatory Information

On March 16, 2012, we published a notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) entitled Special Local Regulation for Marine Events; Temporary Change of Dates for Recurring Marine Events in the Fifth Coast Guard District, Ocean City Maryland Offshore Grand Prix, Ocean City Maryland in the Federal Register (77 FR 15647). We received no comments on the proposed rule. No public meeting was requested, and none was held.

Under 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3), the Coast Guard finds that good cause exists for making this rule effective less than 30 days after publication in the Federal Register. Due to the need for immediate action, the restriction of vessel traffic is necessary to protect life, property and the environment during the fireworks event; therefore, a 30-day delayed effective date is impracticable. Delaying the effective date would be contrary to the regulation's intended objectives of protecting persons and vessels involved in the event, and enhancing public and maritime safety.

Background and Purpose

Marine events are frequently held on the navigable waters within the boundary of the Fifth Coast Guard District. The water activities that typically comprise

marine events include sailing regattas, power boat races, swim races and holiday parades. For a description of the geographical area of each Coast Guard Sector - Captain of the Port Zone, please see 33 CFR 3.25.

This regulation will temporarily change the enforcement period of special local regulations for one recurring marine event within the Fifth Coast Guard District. This regulation applies to one marine event in 33 CFR 100.501, Table to § 100.501.

The Offshore Performance Association (OPA) Racing LLC annually sponsors the "Ocean City Maryland Offshore Grand Prix", on the waters of the North Atlantic Ocean near Ocean City, Maryland. This year, the event will be held on May 13, 2012. The regulation at 33 CFR 100.501 is effective annually for the Ocean City Offshore Challenge marine event. The event consists of approximately 50 V-hull and twin-hull inboard hydroplanes racing in heats counter-clockwise around an oval race course. A fleet of spectator vessels is expected to gather near the event site to view the competition. Therefore, to ensure the safety of participants, spectators, support and transiting vessels, the Coast Guard will temporarily restrict vessel traffic in the event area during the hydroplane races. The regulation at 33 CFR 100.501 would be enforced for the duration of the

event. Under the provisions of 33 CFR 100.501, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on May 13, 2012, vessels may not enter the regulated area unless they receive permission from the Coast Guard Patrol Commander.

Discussion of Comments and Changes

The Coast Guard did not receive comments in response to the notice of proposed rulemaking (NPRM) published in the Federal Register. Accordingly, the Coast Guard is establishing a safety zone on specified waters on the North Atlantic Ocean, Ocean City, Maryland.

Discussion of Rule

The Coast Guard is establishing a temporary special local regulation on specified waters of the North Atlantic Ocean, in Ocean City, Maryland. The regulated area will be established in the interest of public safety during the "Ocean City Offshore Grand Prix", and will be enforced from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on May 13, 2012. The Coast Guard, at its discretion, when practical will allow the passage of vessels when races are not taking place. Except for participants and vessels authorized by the Captain of the Port or his Representative, no person or vessel may enter or remain in the regulated area.

Regulatory Analyses

We developed this rule after considering numerous

statutes and executive orders related to rulemaking. Below we summarize our analyses based on 13 of these statutes or executive orders.

Regulatory Planning and Review

This rule is not a significant regulatory action under section 3(f) of Executive Order 12866, Regulatory Planning and Review, as supplemented by Executive Order 13563, Improving Regulation and Regulatory Review, and does not require an assessment of potential costs and benefits under section 6(a)(3) of Executive Order 12866 or under section 1 of Executive Order 13563. The Office of Management and Budget has not reviewed it under those Orders. We expect the economic impact of this rule to be so minimal that a full Regulatory Evaluation is unnecessary. Although this rule prevents traffic from transiting a portion of certain waterways during specified times, the effect of this regulation will not be significant due to the limited duration that the regulated area will be in effect and the extensive advance notifications that will be made to the maritime community via marine information broadcasts, local radio stations and area newspapers so mariners can adjust their plans accordingly. Additionally, this rulemaking does not change the permanent regulated areas that have been published in 33 CFR 100.501, Table to § 100.501. In

some cases vessel traffic may be able to transit the regulated area when the Coast Guard Patrol Commander deems it is safe to do so.

Small Entities

Under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601-612), we have considered whether this rule would have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities. The term "small entities" comprises small businesses, not-for-profit organizations that are independently owned and operated and are not dominant in their fields, and governmental jurisdictions with populations of less than 50,000.

The Coast Guard certifies under 5 U.S.C. 605(b) that this rule will not have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities.

The rule would affect the following entities, some of which might be small entities: the owners or operators of vessels intending to transit or anchor on the North Atlantic Ocean in the vicinity of Ocean City, Maryland from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. on May 13, 2012.

If you think that your business, organization, or governmental jurisdiction qualifies as a small entity and that this rule would have a significant economic impact on it, please submit a comment (see ADDRESSES) explaining why

you think it qualifies and how and to what degree this rule would economically affect it. This regulation will not have a significant impact on a substantial number of small entities because: (i) it will be enforced only for a short period of time one day; (ii) vessels may be granted the opportunity to transit the regulated area during the period of enforcement if the Patrol Commander deems it safe to do so; (iii) vessels may transit around the regulated area; and (iv) before the enforcement period, the Coast Guard will issue maritime advisories so mariners can adjust their plans accordingly.

Assistance for Small Entities

Under section 213(a) of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (Public Law 104-121), we offer to assist small entities in understanding the rule so that they can better evaluate its effects on them and participate in the rulemaking process.

Small businesses may send comments on the actions of Federal employees who enforce, or otherwise determine compliance with, Federal regulations to the Small Business and Agriculture Regulatory Enforcement Ombudsman and the Regional Small Business Regulatory Fairness Boards. The Ombudsman evaluates these actions annually and rates each agency's responsiveness to small business. If you wish to

comment on actions by employees of the Coast Guard, call 1-888-REG-FAIR (1-888-734-3247). The Coast Guard will not retaliate against small entities that question or complain about this rule or any policy or action of the Coast Guard.

Collection of Information

This rule calls for no new collection of information under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501-3520).

Federalism

A rule has implications for federalism under Executive Order 13132, Federalism, if it has a substantial direct effect on the States, on the relationship between the national government and the States, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities among the various levels of government. We have analyzed this rule under that Order and determined that this rule does not have implications for federalism.

Protest Activities

The Coast Guard respects the First Amendment rights of protesters. Protesters are asked to contact the person listed in the "FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT" section to coordinate protest activities so that your message can be received without jeopardizing the safety or security of people, places or vessels.

Unfunded Mandates Reform Act

The Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (2 U.S.C. 1531-1538) requires Federal agencies to assess the effects of their discretionary regulatory actions. In particular, the Act addresses actions that may result in the expenditure by a State, local, or tribal government, in the aggregate, or by the private sector of \$100,000,000 (adjusted for inflation) or more in any one year. Though this rule will not result in such an expenditure, we do discuss the effects of this rule elsewhere in this preamble.

Taking of Private Property

This rule will not affect a taking of private property or otherwise have taking implications under Executive Order 12630, Governmental Actions and Interference with Constitutionally Protected Property Rights.

Civil Justice Reform

This rule meets applicable standards in sections 3(a) and 3(b)(2) of Executive Order 12988, Civil Justice Reform, to minimize litigation, eliminate ambiguity, and reduce burden.

Protection of Children

We have analyzed this rule under Executive Order 13045, Protection of Children from Environmental Health

Risks and Safety Risks. This rule is not an economically significant rule and does not create an environmental risk to health or risk to safety that may disproportionately affect children.

Indian Tribal Governments

This rule does not have tribal implications under Executive Order 13175, Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments, because it does not have a substantial direct effect on one or more Indian tribes, on the relationship between the Federal Government and Indian tribes, or on the distribution of power and responsibilities between the Federal Government and Indian tribes.

Energy Effects

This rule is not a "significant energy action" under Executive Order 12866 and is not likely to have a significant adverse effect on the supply, distribution, or use of energy.

Technical Standards

This rule does not use technical standards. Therefore, we did not consider the use of voluntary consensus standards.

Environment

We have analyzed this rule under Department of

Homeland Security Management Directive 023-01 and Commandant Instruction M16475.1D, which guide the Coast Guard in complying with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. 4321-4370f), and have concluded this action is one of a category of actions which do not individually or cumulatively have a significant effect on the human environment. This rule is categorically excluded, under figure 2-1, paragraph (34)(h), of the Instruction. This rule involves implementation of regulations within 33 CFR Part 100 that apply to organized marine events on the navigable waters of the United States that may have potential for negative impact on the safety or other interest of waterway users and shore side activities in the event area. The category of water activities includes but is not limited to sail boat regattas, boat parades, power boat racing, swimming events, crew racing, and sail board racing. An environmental analysis checklist and a categorical exclusion determination will be available in the docket where indicated under ADDRESSES.

List of Subjects in 33 CFR Part 100

Marine safety, Navigation (water), Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Waterways.

For the reasons discussed in the preamble, the Coast

Guard amends 33 CFR part 100 as follows:

PART 100--SAFETY OF LIFE ON NAVIGABLE WATERS

1. The authority citation for part 100 continues to read as follows:

Authority: 33 U.S.C. 1233.

2. In § 100.501:

a. Suspend line No. (c).7 in the Table to § 100.501.

b. Add temporary line No.(c.)24 in Table to § 100.501

to read as follows:

§ 100.501 Special Local Regulations; Marine Events in the
Fifth Coast Guard District.

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Table To § 100.501

[All coordinates listed in the Table to § 100.501 reference

Datum NAD 1983]

No.	Date	Event	Sponsor	Location
(c.) Coast Guard Sector Hampton Roads - COTP Zone				
* 24	* May 13, 2012	* Ocean City Maryland Offshore Grand Prix	* Offshore Performance Assn. Racing, LLC	* The waters of the Atlantic Ocean commencing at a point on the shoreline at latitude 38°25'42" N, longitude 075°03'06" W; thence east southeast to latitude 38°25'30" N, longitude 075°02'12" W, thence south southwest parallel to the Ocean City shoreline to latitude 38°19'12" N, longitude 075°03'48" W; thence west northwest to the shoreline at latitude 38°19'30" N, longitude 075°05'00" W. The waters of the Atlantic Ocean bounded by a line drawn from a position along the shoreline near Ocean City, MD at latitude 38°22'25.2" N, longitude 075°03'49.4" W, thence easterly to latitude 38°22'00.4" N, longitude 075°02'34.8" W, thence southwesterly to latitude 38°19'35.9" N, longitude 075°03'35.4" W, thence westerly to a position near the shoreline at latitude 38°20'05" N, longitude 075°04'48.4" W, thence northerly along the shoreline to the point of origin.

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Dated: April 18, 2012

Mark S. Ogle

Captain, U.S. Coast Guard
Captain of the Port Hampton Roads

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